

South Fairmount Community Council ~established 1982 City of Cincinnati

Contact: Elliott Ellis, President, South Fairmount Community Council;
471-5099 or Meg Olberding, City of Cincinnati, 352-5358

For Immediate Release

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INTERVIEW/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Burial of last “reversible lane sign” and Groundbreaking of Queen City Avenue Project

WHAT: The Cincinnati neighborhood of South Fairmount (*established 1849*), Mayor Charlie Luken, and City of Cincinnati officials are throwing a celebration for two momentous events for Queen City Avenue—one of the major access points for the west side of Cincinnati:

- 1) The **GROUNDBREAKING** for the improvements of Queen City Avenue between White Street and Wyoming Avenue in South Fairmount. After years of planning and a \$6 million investment by the project partners, this project will improve safety, alleviate traffic congestion and enhance the neighborhood of South Fairmount.

This project constructs the last segment of the Queen City Avenue widening and realignment project to straighten out “S” curves along Queen City Avenue. This shorter length will decrease total daily vehicle miles by 1,000 miles for the 30,000 cars traveling this route each day because of its new shorter length.

Nearly 50 homes and apartment buildings that line the existing Queen City Avenue will now have a private, family-friendly residential street because of the new alignment of Queen City Avenue.

- 2) The **CEREMONIAL “BURIAL”** of the last reversible-lane sign on a major stretch of Cincinnati roadway. This project marks the removal of the last overhanging signs that change the lane direction with the green arrow and red “x” to manage traffic flow. The City of Cincinnati will place a sign in its final resting place to signal the new era of wider, consistent lane travel for thousands of west-side motorists.

WHEN: Monday March 15, 2004 at 10:30 AM

WHERE: Queen City Avenue/Westwood Avenue, south side at White Street.

WHY: “The neighborhood of South Fairmount is celebrating this long-awaited project that has been in the planning stages since the early 1970s because it provides an enhanced entranceway into the neighborhood,” said Elliott Ellis, President South Fairmount Community Council.

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When the project is complete, the new Queen City Avenue will be lined with purple ash trees and a new traffic island at Queen City Avenue and White Street will be landscaped. “We wanted gateway elements to signal this as an important entryway into South Fairmount,” said Director of Transportation and Engineering, Eileen Enabnit.

PARTNERS: The City of Cincinnati, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments, the Ohio Public Works Commission, and Hamilton County are partners in the project. The design consultants are Balke Engineers and Bentley-Koepke. The contractor is Baker Concrete.

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